

# Convention Issue

# The Organized Farmer

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF FARMERS' UNION OF ALBERTA

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## In This Issue

PRESIDENT'S REPORT .....	Page 2
F. U. A. PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS .....	" 3
ADDRESS BY MRS. W. C. TAYLOR, PRESIDENT OF F.W.U.A. ....	" 8
F.W.U.A. CONVENTION, 1952 .....	" 10
ADDRESS BY MABLE RASMUSON, PRESIDENT JUNIOR F. U. A. ....	" 12
EDITORIALS .....	" 14
ANNUAL CONVENTION F. U. A., 1952 .....	" 16
SIX MONTHS IN BRITAIN .....	" 21



## Greetings

Although this issue will not reach you till after Christmas, we wish to extend to everyone the Compliments of the Season. May 1953 be the year of Achievement for all of us.

## President's Report

The past month has been featured by two main events — the membership drive and the F. U. A. annual convention.

As to the drive, it is going along well and the new membership totals are far ahead of last year. However we have no cause to be too elated for the picture is spotty, and many districts have



**Henry Young of Millet, Alberta,**

who was re-elected President of the F. U. A. at the recent Annual Convention.

done little or nothing as yet. So far, District 7 is leading the way with District 2 a fair second. We must not forget that weather and crop conditions have combined to make an ideal fall for getting membership. The districts which have not yet taken hold of the job are losing a great opportunity. However, on the whole, good work is being done. It should be kept up until every possible membership is secured.

The Action Contest is arousing considerable interest and well over 100 Locals are entered in it now. It looks as if it will be the means of securing considerable extra membership, and causing increased activity in some areas. This is all to the good.

The Annual Convention was the largest ever held by the F. U. A. It was notable for the large number of new delegates attending for the first

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time, many of them quite young people. The high quality of the delegation was shown in the excellent level of debate on almost every question discussed.

While there were several subjects which aroused keen discussion at the Convention, no great heat was generated on any of them. The question of amalgamation with the A.F.A. which could be a hot issue, did not develop very far. The decision of the Convention to authorize the Board to study this further and refer any workable plan to the Locals, was the most logical action to take. It is my impression that had the advocates of amalgamation insisted on a test vote in the Convention, they would have been defeated.

While a large amount of business was transacted by the Convention, a considerable number of resolutions were left over. With this in mind, the Convention gave direction to reduce the number of speakers next year to a "feasible minimum" and to bring in major policy resolutions earlier. These clear instructions must be given effect in future conventions.

In another very significant resolution the Convention instructed the Executive to consult other farm organizations to come forward with "some concrete plan of action" to be taken if the downward trend of the farm economy is not remedied. This is certainly a vital subject and should receive our full attention.

This Convention has given a definite lift to the whole Union movement. It has also given us mandates on many matters. The extent to which these mandates can be carried out will depend largely upon the membership, the spirit and the drive behind the Union. In order to get results, Alberta farmers would be well advised to put more power into their Union. They need it now and they are going to need it more as the months roll by. It is time for an all-out effort to build a Union strong enough to do the job.



# F. U. A. President's Address to Annual F. U. A. Convention

Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is a great privilege indeed for me to welcome you here this morning to the fourth Annual Convention of the Farmers' Union of Alberta, and to present to you my second annual address as your President.

It is my purpose in this address to report to you on the state of our Union, to refer to some aspects of the year's work and to discuss some of the problems ahead.

As far as nature is concerned we meet here under very different conditions than those of a year ago. Then, a large part of the 1951 crop was lying in the field and prospects for recovering it were uncertain. Now we have just experienced what is perhaps the most wonderful season in history and have not only salvaged the 1951 crop, (with some considerable loss of course) but we have also harvested the greatest all-round crop in Canadian history. Truly this is a country of rapid changes and great contrasts. So far as nature is concerned, we have much to rejoice over.

## Good Work Done

There are also some human agencies to whom a word of appreciation is in order. The tremendous crops of the last two years have thrown an utterly unprecedented volume of grain upon our railway and elevator facilities. In addition to that, the large proportion of tough and damp grain in the 1951 crop added immensely to the difficulty of the task. In spite of all this, a great job of grain handling has been done with negligible loss. True, many elevators are still plugged where crops are extra heavy, but grain has been moved and is still moving in unprecedented volume. The appointment of a transport Controller as requested by our Farm Unions, no doubt helped greatly to bring about this result.

In my opinion the Railways, the Elevator Companies, the Board of Grain Commissioners and the Transport Controller, all deserve credit for doing, on the whole, a great job, under extremely difficult circumstances.

In my opinion, we are fortunate also in having the Canadian Wheat Board controlling marketing of our wheat, oats and barley. Without controlled marketing, the vast quantities of grain for sale this year would in all probability have broken the market to a ruinous level.

## Position of Western Agriculture

However in this day and age farmers do not prosper merely by large production. Our stand-

ard of living depends upon what we can get in exchange for the things that we produce. That being the case, high production alone is no guarantee of a good standard. If high production per capita ensured wealth to the producers, the farmers of Western Canada would be the wealthiest group in the nation. However the facts are otherwise.

From the standpoint of the exchange value of our products, there is no question but that our position as farmers has deteriorated further during 1952. Never in the last decade has a bushel of wheat brought us so little in goods and services as it does today. If this process of diminishing returns continues, permanent damage to our agriculture and injury to the whole Canadian economy will undoubtedly result.

## Farm Debt Increasing

Most people in other walks of life (and indeed even some farmers) do not realize how radically the balance between farm costs and farm prices have swung against agriculture since 1948. In spite of the high production of the past four years, farm debt is rising all across the prairies. Already in 1951 the farmers of these three provinces borrowed sixty-four and one-half millions under Federal Government guarantee besides uncounted millions from other sources. Figures for 1951 are not yet available but undoubtedly the trend continues.

Growing along with this is the rapid increase of long term borrowings by the rural school districts of Alberta. In 1947 their total debenture and other debt amounted to \$2,024,129; at the end of 1951 this had risen to \$10,147,704. This figure does not include the school debt of the cities, nor does it include any towns unless they belong to the school divisions. These borrowings are made necessary by the inability of Alberta farmers to provide the funds necessary for school needs. A further factor aggravating the farm debt situation in Alberta, is the failure of the Provincial Government to provide for a system of rural electrification under which farmers could get power without going into debt to build the rural lines. Already with less than 18,000 farms electrified, the cost to our farmers has exceeded \$5,000,000, much of which has been borrowed. To electrify the remaining 50,000 Alberta farms which can be economically reached, will cost over \$50,000,000. Unless we get a new policy in Alberta, farmers will be forced to go into debt for a large part of this or remain in the dark.



The effects of the adverse rate of exchange between farm and industrial products is readily seen in the drift from farm to town. Today it is becoming increasingly difficult to keep young people on the land. To an increasing degree our farms are being operated by elderly men and women. According to some statisticians the average age of farm operators in Alberta today is well over 50 years. It has been estimated as high as 55 years. This is a situation which calls for policies to meet it. The F. U. A. should take the lead in formulating such policies. A revolving fund which could be drawn upon by qualified young men to enable them to get established on the land is urgently needed. The transition from the older to younger farmers must be made possible.

### The Canadian Picture

During the past year the rampant inflation of 1951 has levelled off somewhat, and the cost of living has become more stabilized. This has taken place largely at the expense of the farmer as agricultural prices have declined while other things have advanced somewhat. However the financial statements of industrial concerns will show excessive profit-making at the expense of the public. One year ago I called attention to the fact that nothing effective was being done to check this. That statement is still true. Both Price Control and Excess Profits Tax have been repeatedly urged upon the Federal Government, but they have refused to act. Price control would prevent profiteering, while the Excess Profits Tax would take the excessive profits for the National Treasury. Apparently the Government prefers to have these profits swell the coffers of the Big Interests of Canada.

One year ago we had the cases of the Bakery Combine and the Match Combine in which violations of the law were proved. Now we have reports on an alleged Paper Combine and a Rubber Combine. While these interests have not yet been brought to court and convicted, it sounds like the old familiar pattern of Canadian profiteers at their old tricks again. As I pointed out last year, some of the things which go on in Canada will do more to undermine the faith of our people in their own institutions than any amount of subversive talk by propagandists. Along this line we are now informed by Government circles that Canadian industrialists are unwilling to undertake defence contracts at any reasonable rate of profit. Evidently, in other lines there is no limit and so, once again "profits before the public welfare" is the rule.

### State of the Union

The work of the F. U. A. is always a three-fold task. First, to build the membership and stability of the Organization; second, to press for action on our program; and third, to watch for and act on new emergencies as they arise.

On the first part of this job we have made some moderate progress. Our membership figures total 21,000, an increase of some 3,000 for the year. This is the highest figure so far attained by the Union since amalgamation, but is still far short of our immediate objective of enrolling a majority of Alberta farmers. Undoubtedly the harvest situation of a year ago was a factor against getting memberships, but this was offset to some extent by very good weather during the winter of 1951-1952, which encouraged canvassing.

### F. U. A. Finances

On the financial side, the picture has brightened considerably during 1952. Some further reduction in expenditures, together with higher revenues, have combined to produce a very comfortable surplus on the year's operations. This surplus has wiped out the deficits incurred in the first two years of the operation of the F.U.A., and has somewhat re-established our financial position.

It should not be assumed, however, that the financial problems of the F. U. A. are solved. I must point out to you that the rigid control of expenditure which we have had to maintain during these two years, has made it impossible to launch out and give the services which a Union should give. In my opinion we should be seeking ways to give more service to our members, and we should keep them and all farmers informed by way of the radio as to what we are doing. Lack of assured income has prevented this so far.

The resolutions passed at the last Annual Convention, and by the Board meeting following it, were presented to the respective Governments to which they pertained. Replies have been received from the Alberta Government to each resolution at our request. On the Federal resolutions no reply other than the formal acknowledgment has been received.

### Provincial Matters

On Provincial matters little concession on any important point has been made by the Government to our representations. Out of 76 resolutions presented there was agreement on 11, while 11 were taken under consideration and 23 were claimed to be covered. The 19 requests definitely refused, included most of the main points in our program. Several of these, such as Rural Electrification and the request for Producer Marketing legislation, have the solid support of the Alberta Federation of Agriculture also. In spite of special efforts made to get action on the marketing question, no definite progress has been made. On both these questions the Government takes the attitude that the farm organizations of Alberta do not represent the opinion of the majority of Alberta farm people. We have reason to believe we do. It would look as if new methods will have



to be used to convince the Government of the need for action on these and other lines.

In spite of the strongest protests that we could make, the Government has decided to export natural gas from Alberta. This decision so far, covers only the Peace River area, but once export is begun there is no doubt that other areas will be involved. This natural gas is the heritage of the people of Alberta. If the people of Central Alberta want to have their share retained for present and future industrial needs, they had better be on guard.

#### Federal Matters

During 1952, Federal matters have required much of our attention. The outbreak of Foot-and-Mouth disease and the embargoes which followed, created an emergency situation and immediate representations were made by the Prairie farm organizations to the Federal Government for measures to meet the crisis. In the main, the Government has followed our suggestions, though the floor prices set by them are not quite as high as we asked for.

One sinister development which caused unnecessary loss to Alberta farmers was the appearance of so-called embargoes on interprovincial trade. Imposed by several Provinces in clear defiance of the B.N.A. Act, they were tolerated by Alberta merely because taking the matter to court would have involved still more time. The Federal Government should see to it that machinery is available to prevent any such violations of the Constitution in future.

#### Wheat Marketing

It has been said that our Western economy is based on wheat. That being true, the marketing of our wheat is of basic importance to us. The International Wheat Agreement under which the bulk of our wheat has been marketed for three years past, expires on July 31st next. This agreement was negotiated at a time when farm costs were far lower than today and the maximum price of \$1.80 is now far too low. This has resulted in considerable loss to Canadian farmers. Our Federal Government has added to this loss by their autocratic action in ordering the Wheat Board to supply Canadian millers with wheat at the same low price as under the I. W. A. This puts the Western wheat growers, who comprise about 12½% of the people of Canada, in the position of being forced to supply wheat to feed the other 87½% of their fellow Canadians at some 40c to 50c below world prices. Last year, some 70 million bushels of wheat were used by Canadian millers. At 40c per bushel the loss to Western farmers was some \$28 millions. The loss in dollars is bad enough, but the rank discrimination against one section of our people is worse still. In spite of the strongest protests, our Government still persists in this indefensible policy and the loss to Western wheat growers continues.

#### Renewal of I. W. A.

In spite of this loss, it is safe to say that a large majority of farmers favor the renewal of the International Wheat Agreement, providing a more satisfactory scale of prices can be established. In any renewal of this agreement I feel that provision must be made for a periodic price review, and a separate price for domestic wheat.

During the whole period of the Agreement, world conditions have justified higher prices, as is shown by the fact that prices for Canadian wheat sold outside the Agreement have always been higher and have at times been as much as 55c above the I. W. A. maximum price. Since the I. W. A. price is based upon American funds, the discount on the American dollar has cost Canadian wheat growers several cents per bushel for a considerable time now.

At several meetings held during the year, the Inter-Provincial Council has worked out a basis for us to aim at in the negotiations for a new agreement. This provides for a considerable increase in both floor and ceiling prices and also for an annual price review so as to provide for more flexibility of price in case of any radical change in the price level. It also provides for a Domestic Price completely separate and based on parity with farm costs.

It is to be hoped that these general principles will get united support from all Canadian representatives when the next session of the International Wheat Conference is held at Washington this winter. If the importing nations insist on driving too hard a bargain, I feel that we would be prepared to go on without an agreement. In that case the Canadian Wheat Board should handle all wheat and sell it to the best advantage of the producer. There must be no question of going back to the open market and the tender mercies of the Grain Exchange. Western Grain Growers have had too much of that.

#### Livestock Marketing

Livestock marketing presents a confused picture. In spite of the efforts of Mr. Gardiner, the support price for cattle has not been made fully effective. Congestion of storage space makes it difficult for the Government to take all cattle offered at times. Lack of co-operation by the packers is blamed for the low prices paid on light finished cattle.

It would seem that on this matter of support price for cattle the Government should be able to do a better job. Otherwise we must conclude that the Packers are above the law. It is time the Government regained control of the situation.

As to hogs, unless new markets can be found, production reduced to fit Canadian demand appears the only way out. It is certain that with present feed and labor costs, the reduced price after January 1st next, will render hog raising unprofitable.



### Interprovincial Activities

During 1952 we have worked in close co-operation with the Farm Unions in Saskatchewan and Manitoba through our Inter-Provincial Council. On a number of matters affecting western Agriculture, representations were made to Ottawa by delegations or otherwise. One full delegate from the three Unions visited Ottawa, Fort William and Winnipeg. Our very energetic chairman, Mr. Phelps, also appeared before the Agricultural Committee of the House of Commons on our behalf. While in Ottawa we were assured by Mr. Howe that the Government regards the Interprovincial Council as the spokesman for an important section of Prairie farmers. A further recognition of our status was given when we were invited to name an adviser to the Canadian delegation at the International Wheat Conference. The Interprovincial Conference at Saskatoon last July helped to develop a common viewpoint among Prairie farmers. Just recently the Council called a meeting in Saskatoon of all organizations which had delegates at the last International Wheat Conference to discuss and co-ordinate our objectives for the next session of the Conference to be held in Washington. At this Conference the three Farm Unions and the United Grain Growers were represented. Although invited, the Wheat Pools did not send representatives.

### Freight Rate Brief

When the Railways launched their application for a further increase in freight rates this fall, a brief was presented on behalf of the Farm Unions and presented to the Board of Transport Commissioners on September 22nd. As the Board shortly afterwards threw out the railways' request for a general increase, we can well conclude that the arguments advanced in our brief played an important part in this decision.

### Sand and Gravel Case

This case was appealed to the Supreme Court of Canada by the oil company. The judgment has not yet come down. The funds which we had collected have been largely exhausted by the expenses of this appeal. When the decision of the court is given, we shall then have to consider whether or not we should go further in the event of a further appeal.

### F. U. A. Building Fund

We have now set up a special fund in which to accumulate money for the building of a Head Office for our Union. The F.U.A. house has been sold and the proceeds, together with the final payment from the U. F. A. have been placed in this fund. Some donations have also been received.

We are now ready to receive donations from all Locals, District Associations and members who wish to help in providing their Union with an

adequate and creditable headquarters. It is now strictly up to the membership.

### The Question of Amalgamation

Some months ago the A. F. A. suggested that a joint committee be set up to study the question of closer relations between the A.F.A. and F.U.A. This was done, and the committee worked out a suggested basis for a merger of the two organizations.

The principles involved in this proposal will come before you for discussion at this Convention, but of course no final binding action can be taken on it at this time. This matter is very important involving as it does the future of this movement, so I suggest that you weigh very carefully the advantages and disadvantages involved, before deciding whether or not to advance the proposition further.

### Problems of Mechanization

The mechanization of Alberta agriculture is progressing rapidly. This is necessary, but it has added to the risk of farming and increased our vulnerability to exploitation. Today the farmer is at the mercy of, not only Packers, but also Machine Companies, Power Companies, Insurance racketeers and Oil Companies, most of which set their own margins of profit on the basis of all the traffic will bear. Where we once bought their products in hundreds of dollars worth, we must now spend thousands, and the profit toll increases proportionately. In 1951 Alberta farmers borrowed over \$21 millions to buy machinery through the Farm Improvement Loan Act alone.

We have talked about Parity, but in order to achieve it, we shall first have to control the prices of the things we have to buy. In that connection it seems to me that it is about time we had an investigation by a Royal Commission into the prices charged for gas and oil, etc., in Alberta. These products are produced here from our own natural resources. They are now a basic necessity in the modern method of farm production. We have reason to believe that we are being overcharged for them. It is time for an enquiry by a body with authority to get at the facts.

Farm mechanization brings other problems too. For many years the Family Farm has been considered basic to our way of life. It is now threatened by mechanization, as the high cost of machinery makes the larger units relatively more efficient. Unless this situation can be met by greater co-operation among the smaller farmers, the family farm will be placed at a growing disadvantage. This question is very complex, involving as it does problems of weed control and the maintenance of soil fertility. On its solution will depend the type of community life in the years to come.

### The Road Ahead

It is not easy to foretell the future. No one



knows what the crop conditions will be in the coming year. Nor can we do more than guess at the economic conditions which will prevail six months hence. However, while we can do nothing to influence the weather, we can do something to improve our economic position.

The position of agriculture in Canada is largely our own fault. Any potentially powerful group which allows itself to be divided and imposed upon by political or economic interests has itself to blame. As has been pointed out many times, western farmers, united and determined, could control their own destiny. Without unity they can control nothing.

### Organization Essential

This is the age of Organization. Year by year we see fresh examples of the fact that the better organized groups simply push the others aside. Even men who do not believe in organization should be able to recognize this outstanding fact of our times. If we want to end the exploitation of Agriculture, we shall have to organize 100%. There is no other way, and there is no short cut to our economic salvation. In this very practical job we cannot expect any Messiah to appear and show us an easy way.

As we organize, we shall have to study ways and means to get action on our program. When a majority of farmers are organized this should come more easily. If not, new methods will have to be tried. One thing is certain, and that is, a Union representing a majority of Alberta farmers should not be satisfied merely to pass resolutions and have them disregarded. Long ago Alberta farmers proved that they were not afraid to blaze new trails. We can do it again if need be.

### Summary

During 1952 we have made distinct progress in building a harmonious and united organization. The differences and jealousies of the old organizations have largely passed, and today the Union is gaining wider acceptance in the Province generally. That is as it should be. Our common interests as farmers require unity of purpose. Let us concentrate on the basic principles for which this Union exists and work for the advancement of our common cause. This Union is our own instrument. We should use it to the full.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, let me express my appreciation to all members of the Executive and Board who co-operated so well during the past year. To them belongs much of the credit for the good work done during that period. We also owe a vote of thanks to those district officers and the many canvassers who have worked hard to extend the membership of the Union.

Once again I am happy to pay a tribute to the Secretary and all members of our Central Office

staff. Their loyalty to the Union and their keen interest in the work is highly commendable, and has still further increased the efficiency of Central Office.

## Keg River F.U.A. Local Holds Meeting Re Rabies Epidemic

The Keg River Local held a meeting on November 20th to discuss the prevalence in the district amongst the fox, wolf and coyote population of the rabies disease. Those present gave accounts of the destruction of rabid foxes on Keg River farms during the past few weeks; they reported several cases of rabies in hogs on farms which were subsequently under quarantine. Concern was expressed for approximately one thousand head of hogs, cattle and horses, which were in danger of contracting the disease. It was pointed out that the disease in foxes had been spreading steadily southwards all summer and it was thought that the spread would continue with increased speed.

Motions were passed unanimously asking that immediate action be taken by the authorities to kill all foxes, wolves, coyotes and all other wild animals capable of spreading rabies; and also asking that compensation should be paid to farmers losing livestock from the disease. Considerable financial loss might be suffered by farmers whose farms were quarantined, in respect of animals which were overweight by the time that the quarantine was lifted.

The Stapledene F.W.U.A. Local is to be commended for organizing a meeting at Staplehurst School, Lloydminster, at which Mrs. Redman, Director for District No. 7, accompanied by Mr. D. Yeudall, sub-district director, organized the Staplehurst F.U.A. Local No. 784 with the following officers elected:

President — William G. Till

Sect'y-Treasurer — John D. Kelly.

Mr. John D. Kelly was chosen as head of the canvassers.

Sixteen F. W. U. A. ladies were present and served a most delicious lunch after the meeting. Altogether the meeting was highly successful in every way.

The following has been prepared at the request of the F. U. A. by Mr. Bruce Ellis of Hubalta, Alta., who was last year's winner of the Nuffield scholarship which provided him with a six months' stay in Britain. Bruce was President of the Junior F. U. A. last year.

# Farm Women's Union of Alberta

## Address of Mrs. W. C. Taylor PRESIDENT OF FARM WOMEN'S UNION OF ALBERTA, TO ANNUAL CONVENTION

Mr. Chairman and Friends:

On behalf of the Women's Section of our organization I am very happy to welcome you to this our fourth annual convention. I am hoping that each and every one of you will give of your best so that this convention may be the biggest



Mrs. W. C. Taylor

Re-elected as F.W.U.A. President at the Annual Convention held in December, 1952.

and best yet and so that every delegate present may return home with such zest and enthusiasm that 1953 will be a banner year for the Farmers' Union of Alberta.

For me, the past year has been filled to overflowing with new experiences, new friendships, educational opportunities and a never-ending wonder as to the many fields of endeavor in which our organization plays such a vital part. Before I proceed, I wish to thank the many, many friends who have helped to make this such a pleasant year for me. My thanks go especially to Mrs. Winifred Ross who has been most kind and generous with both time and advice; to Mr. Young and other members of the Executive who have encouraged the women in their special projects;

to our marvelous office staff made up of girls who spare no time or effort in assisting us in our projects and activities; to Mr. and Mrs. Powell of Sexsmith, who made it possible for me to visit several old friends while I was in their district; to Mr. and Mrs. Hawley of Nampa, who extended to us the hospitality of their home; to Mr. Sam Simpson of Fairview, who took us to visit the grave of "Twelve Foot Davis," almost a "must" for a Peace River visitor; to Dr. Jackson and her family of Keg River (we won't soon forget the delectable fried chicken and chocolate cake served to tired and hungry travellers); to Mr. and Mrs. Barker of Calgary, and the many others who made me feel so welcome.

To me, one of the most enjoyable parts of the past year have been my visits to the twelve district conventions which I attended. I want to extend to you and through you my many thanks to the members of your locals for giving me such a good hearing. I have often made the statement that a good audience makes a better speaker. I feel that in the attentive hearing you gave me you made my task immeasurably easier—in fact a pleasure. It was stimulating to me to hear the spirited discussions taking place at many of your conventions — so stimulating that although I spoke for only half an hour at the first conventions, I ended up at Lethbridge by speaking for fifty minutes. It is indeed fortunate that the conventions for this year are over or I might have ended up by boring the audience to tears.

During the past year I have been a member of the Interprovincial Council and the Alberta Federation of Agriculture. I have found the work on both these boards most interesting. I attended the Western Agricultural Conference and was a member of the delegation from the Interprovincial Union Council which interviewed the Board of Grain Commissioners and the Canadian Wheat Board in Winnipeg. From there some of us went on to Ottawa where we talked with the Western members of the various parties as well as interviewing several cabinet ministers. One fact that struck me very forcibly was the small number of representatives there are to speak for the Western Provinces — all the more reason why we should build a large, informed organization to support the Western members of all parties when they speak for us in Parliament.

While we were in the East, several of us went on and spent a day in Montreal visiting the Quebec Farmers' Union. It is interesting to note that although they have no provincial Federation of Agriculture, their union is a member of



the Canadian Federation of Agriculture. The part of their set-up which impressed me the most was the different services which they provide for their members. They buy and sell farms, provide a daily radio broadcast of 5 to 15 minutes, sell life, automobile and fire insurance and when we were there they were investigating the possibility of providing health and accident insurance. They have bought a hotel and commissary with Credit Union facilities for the use of farmers who work in the woods in winter. Their boys and girls are given agricultural and home-making courses by the government at which Union officials give organizational training. These courses last six months and cost \$15.00 a month. Their Union started a revolving fund at a low rate of interest for loans to young people wishing to get a start on a farm of their own. This was so successful that the Quebec Government is now underwriting it. They have a yearly budget of \$14,000,000 and are planning on extending their services to the farmers.

When your last year's resolutions were presented to the Cabinet, I was one of the delegation. We talked over our problems at some length and on the whole I felt they gave us a very courteous and attentive hearing. While we were disappointed to hear that they were not interested in taking over electric power as a public utility so as to provide it at a more reasonable cost, we were pleased to note that they were making a study of the car insurance field and hope that before too long they will take some action on this matter. The Government at our request, agreed to undertake the printing of a booklet of "Services Available in Alberta" and we hope to have these at an early date. In answer to our resolution asking for the use of blood tests to prove drunken driving, we were informed that these tests were being used as evidence but only when the driver voluntarily permitted the test. We feel that this defeats the very purpose of the test so will again ask that such a test be made compulsory. The most forward step taken in Alberta this year by the Provincial Government is the setting up of Family Courts. We sincerely hope that many family problems may be settled there and so materially reduce the number of cases reaching the divorce courts. Last year, as well as other years, the F.W.U.A. passed a resolution asking our Provincial Government to enact Community Property Laws. Under this law all property acquired after marriage becomes the joint property of man and wife and the survivor receives all. The Cabinet asked that the men of our organization consider this resolution and if passed by them, the Government would give the matter serious consideration. I feel sure farmers, maybe more than others, realize that their wives are in every sense a partner in their business and would be the first to admit that these laws would be only fair and just.

Another matter of vital interest to us this year is the signing of another International Wheat Agreement. I feel that all of us are most anxious to see such an agreement signed but as far as I am concerned, it is not a matter of an agreement "at any cost." With the rising cost of land, machinery and farm help, I feel the farmer must have the cost of production plus a living wage. We are fortunate indeed to have the Canadian Wheat Board which has done such a wonderful selling job for us during the past few years when our grain has been tough, damp and feed. If we fail to get an International Wheat Agreement, we can count on this Board to market our wheat for us.

In our own Union this year we are planning a Leadership Course. Several members of our Board have attended courses in Montana, Saskatchewan and Banff, and we plan on drawing from their experience to set up a short course early in 1953. We are hoping that this will be so successful that it will branch out until it covers the length and breadth of the Province. Another project is the procuring of suitable office space. We have at present in the Building Fund almost \$18,000.00. I would like to suggest to every delegate present that he or she go and visit our present office and then imagine how they would like to climb those stairs three or four times daily. If they don't fancy the idea, I wish they would go back home and suggest to their Locals that they donate at least a dollar per member or a little better if they can afford it. If every Local would do this, we could have a new office before next convention. Another experiment we are trying this year is an Action Contest. You will all know that the Executive is offering six worthwhile prizes in addition to any offered by individual districts. The entry forms are beginning to roll in—is your Local one of them? If not, get busy and join the contest. Our membership increased by 3,000 last year. We are counting on an even larger increase this year.

Another problem which is facing us as citizens, as well as farmers, is the fact that more and more of our young people are leaving the farm. Some say it is the lure of the bright lights, others say it is the big wages available in the cities and towns. I believe it is more than that. The lights of the city are not as bright as they used to be in contrast with farm conditions and many young people are becoming sadly disillusioned about the "big money" which seems to disappear without a trace long before pay day. I think that we as farm people should accept a share of the responsibility for discouraging our children from setting on the farm. We have forgotten to teach them that farms have provided leaders for many walks of life, that farmers are the backbone of Canada's prosperity, that farmers are the finest neighbors on earth. We fail to emphasize the fact that no longer is it possible

for misfits in other walks of life to become farmers—in fact the shoe is on the other foot. Today a farmer must have a knowledge of soils and fertilizers, of machinery and tillage methods, of seeds and sprays, of weeds and methods of eradicating them, the management of livestock and poultry. He must be a mechanic, to keep his machinery in working order, an organizer in order to do the proper thing at the proper time, a carpenter to keep his buildings in repair and last but by no means least, a bookkeeper or he finds himself in a sorry mess when April thirtieth rolls around. Farming has become big business and requires intelligence and ability. Let us convince our young people of these truths so that they may be proud to be farmers. This won't entirely solve the problem, for under present conditions it is almost impossible for a young man to start farming under his own power. This is a problem which we should have foreseen for some years. We should try to impress upon our Provincial Government the necessity of setting up a fund from which young people wishing to start on a farm could get a long-term loan at a low rate of

interest. What will it avail us to have millions of dollars of oil money if our young men and women have sold their farm-birthright for a mess of pottage?

In closing, I would like to stress the importance of increasing the membership in our farm organization. We need the membership behind us when we approach governments, we need money to provide services, we need ideas to keep our Union active and creative, we need members training for leadership, we need your backing to encourage us in keeping on working for a better deal for the farmer and his wife and above all we need faithful members who will never say quit. In the words of Calvin Coolidge: "Nothing in the world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not; nothing is more common than unsuccessful men with talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent. The slogan 'Press On' has solved and always will solve the problems of the human race."

Mrs. W. C. Taylor.

## F. W. U. A. CONVENTION, 1952

By Mrs. W. C. Taylor

Another convention has come and gone. It was most interesting to note that well over half the delegates attending the women's sessions were at a convention for the first time. Many of them were heard to observe that they had had no idea a convention could be so interesting that they would hate to miss a moment. The majority of the delegates were in their places at 9:00 a. m. so as to take no chance of missing the message given each morning by the Very Reverend J. Grant Sparling, D.D., Dean of Edmonton. He advised the women to guard their tongues and to make a special effort to speak only kind thoughts, to have the courage to make up their minds and the stamina to stand by their decisions; the enthusiasm to walk through life with a definite goal in view and above all the vision to enable them to live with and for others, to be so busy thinking of others that they might never find time to feel sorry for themselves.

During the convention plans were made to send delegates to a triennial Conference of the Associated Country Women of the World, in Toronto, of which the F. W. U. A. is a Constituent member. Mrs. Ross of Millet, was appointed Convener of a Committee to give publicity to and raise money for this project.

The new F.W.U.A. Cook Books and yearly programs were on sale and were selling like the proverbial hot cakes.

The F.W.U.A. Executive and Board were in-

structed to set up a Leadership Course early in 1953 and to institute short courses in some districts. This project was planned after convention and more detail on this will appear elsewhere in this issue.

The delegates were given the opportunity to visit the "little grey church" which has been restored and placed by the present McDougall Church. Dozens of them were interested in the building which is made of logs, covered with hand-sawn lumber and shingled with hand-made shakes — pictures, momentos and relics of pioneers of all faiths were examined by dozens of members who were able to find time to visit this little shrine.

Two delightful selections were sung by Mrs. Thorseth, Tuesday afternoon.

The handicraft exhibit was above average. Each year the entries seem to include more items which differ from simple embroidery and crocheting — this year a rug made from old felt hats drew much comment, a woven runner and a beautiful example of Persian Weaving were items which were much admired. One corner was given over to Scandinavian handicraft — costumes were shown and many lovely pieces of work were on exhibit. The convention asked that the handicraft exhibit be held again next year and that Roumanian costumes be modelled and a Roumanian handicraft corner be featured.

Many new resolutions were passed and those



from former years endorsed. Mrs. Pharis of Magrath made the suggestion that in future a resolution embodying known policy of the organization be presented early in the convention for discussion and endorsement so as to save much repetition. The convention decided there was much merit in the suggestion so this will be undertaken for the 1953 convention.

At various times through the convention interesting visitors and members were introduced — among these were Miss Rose Ducie and Mrs. McNaughton of the Western Producer; Mrs. Marjorie Stiles, free lance writer; Miss Nellie McClung of the Edmonton Journal; Mrs. Gertrude Wohl, Mrs. Frances Hicks, Mrs. Helen Deakin, Mrs. Pansy Molen and Miss Lillian Hogg, members of the F. U. A. staff; Mrs. Young, Mrs. Wood, Mrs. Stimpfle, wives of officials; Mrs. Archibald, pioneer member of the farm organization; Mrs. Ross, former President of the F.W.U.A.; Mrs. Stewart, President of the C. A. C.; Mrs. J. M. McAfee, mother of the F.W.U.A. President, Mrs. Taylor. Five-year-old John Thompson, grandson of Mrs. Winifred Ross, was introduced and spoke over the microphone to the convention.

A photograph of the delegates was taken Thursday morning and the pictures were on sale Thursday afternoon.

Mrs. Reynolds, Information Officer of the Food and Agricultural Organization, a part of the U.N.O., was a speaker at the joint convention on Tuesday night. She spoke of the talk of surpluses in the world at a time when so many were hungry. She said that food was the most urgent of human needs, that two out of every three in the world never have enough to eat and one out of every two hover on the brink of starvation all the time. She urged support of the F.A.O. as a means of preventing death and starvation in many parts of the world.

Others who spoke briefly were Mrs. Stoltz of the Montana Farmers' Union; Mr. Wes. Coates, Vice-President of Saskatchewan Farmers' Union and Interprovincial Council representative on advisory council to the Government Representative on the International Wheat Conference, and Mr. J. Schulz, President of Manitoba Farmers' Union.

The United Grain Growers provided a lunch for the delegates at the dance and social evening and a tea for the ladies Thursday afternoon. This was catered for by the McDougall Church W.A. and served in the church parlor. Mr. Harlan Green of Dewberry, accompanied by Miss Bullock, gave all a rare treat by playing several solos on the flute during the tea hour.

At the close of the Convention, Mrs. Winifred Ross presented Miss Molly Coupland of Lethbridge, with a gold wrist watch, and Mrs. W. L. Barker of Calgary, a tooled leather purse, on behalf of the delegates, Board and Executive of the F.W.U.A. in recognition of the fine work they have done for the organization.

Officers of the F.W.U.A. elected during the Convention were President Mrs. W. C. Taylor, Wainwright; Mrs. C. T. Armstrong, Calgary, and Mrs. J. Harrold, Jr., Edmonton, Vice-Presidents.

## LEADERSHIP COURSE

By Mrs. W. C. Taylor

The 1952 F.W.U.A. Convention set up a Leadership Committee, members were Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Armstrong and Mrs. Harrold. The F. U. A. Board added Mr. Young to the committee and instructed them to begin planning the courses immediately.

The Committee met Monday, December 15th. After some discussion as to who should attend such a course, it was generally agreed that it should include directors of F.U.A. and F.W.U.A. and potential leaders from locals and districts. In order to include so many it was felt it would be necessary to obtain accommodation at some of the Schools of Agriculture. Mrs. Taylor contacted Mr. Longman and discovered the schools would not be available before April 2nd. It was decided to make tentative arrangements to hold a course at Olds on April 2nd, 3rd and 4th and to hold a F.W.U.A. Board meeting the preceding day. As it was felt that many men might not be able to attend at that time, it was agreed to hold an experimental school on Friday, January 16th, immediately after the F. U. A. Board meeting. None of the money from the Leadership Fund will be used to finance this course as only a limited number of members could be invited.

Members of the F. U. A. Board will give the lectures and only one outside speaker will be invited. The topics for discussion are: Highlights of F. U. A. Policy; A.F.A., W.A.C. and C.F.A.; Interprovincial Council and Conference; How to make a Local canvas; How to keep a Local active; Publicity and Public Relations; Relationship among District Officials; Re-organizing a Local; Action Contest; How to interest young people in our organization; Accomplishments of Farm Organizations; Plans and suggestions for April Leadership School and Rural Leadership.

Locals are urged to send donations to the Leadership Fund to help defray expenses of the April Leadership School which is being planned for the potential leaders from all districts in the province.

## F.W.U.A. LOCAL NEWS

The regular meeting of the Delia F. W. U. A. Local was held on November 27th. Many interesting items of business were dealt with, including a discussion of the proposed Public Library for Delia. It was agreed to hold their usual Christmas dance on Boxing Day. After the meeting a delicious lunch was enjoyed by all.

# Junior F. U. A. News and Views

## Address of Mable Rasmuson, President Junior Branch, F.U.A.

Edmonton, December, 1952

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is with a great deal of pleasure I bring greetings to you from the Junior branch of the Farmers' Union of Alberta.

I hope this week we will accomplish the goal we set out to achieve in an orderly and well-conducted manner. During the week we should review our past efforts for a brief period in order that we are able to make constructive plans for our organization's advancement in the future.

Man is living in the dawn forever and we should realize that our past—the history of the farm organizations has no other mission than to equip and train us for the future. Let us set our goals high and work for the achievement of them.

I would like to give you a brief outline of the activities the Juniors have been carrying on and their hopes and goals for the future.

1. **To train our members to become better citizens:** By that I mean, becoming men and women of good moral and physical strength, believing in our country and being ready to defend it, being honest with others and ourselves, and obeying the laws of the country and of God.

2. **To train our members for leadership:** We, the young people, must, in years to come, accept responsible positions of leadership in our communities, in our agricultural organizations, in our co-operatives, in our churches and in our governments, and so our aim is to train in the basic fundamentals of leadership.

3. **To follow more definitely a four-fold plan of development:** that is, educational, vocational, economic and social, in order to give the young people of a community an opportunity to know one another better, to enrich the social life of their community and to make life happier and better in order that these young people may serve their communities, their province and nation more effectively and thereby assist in promoting International Goodwill.

As we are a Junior movement within a parent organization, I would like to give you a definition I heard some time ago of a Farmers' Union and it holds true for all Farmers' Unions all over the world: "A Farmers' Union is to improve the welfare of all families who earn their living by tilling the soil. In order to do this there must be peace, democracy and abundance for all regardless of race, colour or creed." Neither farmers as a group nor Canada as a nation can be isolated on a little island of plenty while other groups or other na-

tions suffer.

A great American statesman, Abraham Lincoln, once said: "The strongest band of human sympathy outside of the family relation should be one uniting all working people of all nations, tongues and kindreds." I believe in the great man's idea and feel you folks as men and women interested in helping others as well as yourself in the Farmers' Union must also do.

In its 30 odd years of existence the Junior U. F. A. and F. U. A. have many accomplishments to their credit, maybe not all directly but the Junior organization has definitely played a part in many.

Perhaps one of the first big undertakings of the Juniors was to hold a convention at Farm Young People's Week some 30 years ago. Here a slate of officers was elected to draw up a constitution to be known as the Junior U. F. A. with the aims I mentioned previously. Through the years the Juniors have continued to be connected with Farm Young People's Week. Our Junior leaders have set high standards for those following to achieve and it is the training given at Farm Young People's Week and in our Junior locals that has inspired them to some extent to such higher goals and attainments. It is during Farm Young People's Week which is held at the University of Alberta the first week or two in June, that we hold our annual convention and elect our Executive. Resolutions sent in by the various locals are dealt with in an orderly and business-like manner.

Nearly four years ago, Ed. Ness, President of the Juniors at that time, came up with the brilliant idea to enter a candidate for Miss Calgary Stampede. After much work on the part of the locals and those concerned, Miss Beckner won the award and our treasury was substantially increased. Each year we have again entered candidates but have not been able to elect a queen again. Our candidates have placed second both years. The money raised by this campaign is put in a trust fund to be used for educational undertakings of the Juniors.

The Rural Leadership course which has just completed its third year, is helped financially by this trust fund. The course is sponsored by the various co-operative organizations in Alberta and by the Department of Extension as well. Young men and women are selected by the sponsoring organizations and are brought to Banff School



of Fine Arts where the course is held. Instructors for the various subjects offered such as public speaking, discussion groups, organization of a club's activities, community singing, writing news reports and farm articles for the newspapers and the taking of minutes at meetings were men like Floyd Griesbach, secretary of the National Farm Radio Forum; Ed. Patching of the Alberta Wheat Pool; Bill Scarth of the United Grain Growers and men from the Department of Extension, including Mr. Gordon Hawkins of the University of London, England, who has taken on a position with the Department of Extension till next June. Mr. Hawkins lectured on Governments — from local governments to world governments.

For a number of years now the Junior F.U.A. has held exchange visits with the Ontario Junior Farmers. I was fortunate two years ago to be chosen with Pete Berger of Parkland, to represent Alberta at their annual conference at Guelph. We observed their techniques and we were treated royally by our sister province in every way. This year it was the Junior F.U.A. who played host to two young people from Ontario at Farm Young People's Week and on a tour of Alberta's Rockies, farming and ranching country. We were also very fortunate in receiving finances from the Alberta Wheat Pool, the United Grain Growers, Department of Extension and the Department of Agriculture to help us to act as host at the same time to a young lad and lassie from the Young Farms Clubs of Scotland. Needless to say, we enjoyed meeting the group and found it very interesting to swap tales about our various countries. It was an opportunity for us here in Alberta to extend our well-known hospitality to such a group and for them in turn to observe our way of living. A number of other provinces in Canada have yearly exchanged programs with foreign countries but so far Alberta, the greatest agricultural province in Canada, is lacking in such an undertaking. I am very pleased to say the Junior F.U.A. is looking into the possibilities of such an exchange program to begin very soon.

Last January four Juniors and two Seniors attended the State School of the Montana Farmers' Union and soon realized that the 49th parallel is really no more than an imaginary line, as their problems seemed very similar to ours.

Because of distance, a Junior F.U.A. Day was held during the Club Winners' Week at Fairview this year and I feel it was a very successful venture. Junior Directors were elected and resolutions were passed dealing with their northern problems. I find working in the different districts that the 4-H Clubs and Juniors can work very successfully together. It is good training in leadership for our older members to act as club leaders or else as sponsors for a 4-H Club project.

There are a number of ideas and suggestions locals can use in their districts to make them better communities. Some locals paint the neigh-

borhood mailboxes with names of the owners. Others sell name signs made of wood for the farmer's gate, sponsor Farm Radio Forum, 4-H Club projects, local entertainment, cater to banquets and weddings. A project that is helped by Central Office is a Fun File. The local clubs are asked to send in to the office ideas and suggestions for games, recipes, songs, quizzes, dances, etc. These are then compiled and sent out to the locals in sections on the various types of fun. This supplies the local with a file of ideas for the recreational part of their meetings. Locals in Districts 9 and 10 will be sponsoring and participating in a weekly 15-minute radio broadcast. A committee was set up in August to draw up a schedule for various locals participating.

Two of our past presidents, Orrin Hart of Claresholm and Bruce Ellis of Hubalta, have won the Nuffield Scholarship to study agriculture in Great Britain. Another Alberta man who was president of the Junior U.F.A. a number of years ago, has earned himself a medal for his service to all Albertans — Mr. Donald Cameron, Director of the Department of Extension and the Banff School of Fine Arts. Mr. Cameron is a man who must have had big dreams for Alberta and set his goals high. Today I believe he has far surpassed his first dreams and goals and I imagine has set even higher ones which I'm certain Mr. Cameron with his ability and initiative will certainly achieve. The Juniors are proud to have had such men in their ranks and wish them continued success. We, this coming week, should be setting high goals for Alberta and once we have set them, work towards the achievement of these ideas.

I would like to urge you to take pride in being a farmer and in the rich heritage of being farmers in such a great and wealthy country as Canada. Great strides have been made in agriculture during the last decade or two but there is still much need for vast improvement and it is up to you and your sons and daughters to see that these improvements are made.

I know one rule that we should live by and that is "Do unto others as you would have done unto you." I know in our hearts we don't believe in or want wars. In fact the only war we should ever have to fight is one against Ignorance, Poverty, Disease and Hunger. It is up to you to lead the way against these things.

I would like to suggest that the delegates give constructive criticism where criticism is needed and display the attitude of goodwill, tolerance, co-operation and common sense in the debates that will be coming before the convention.

In closing, I wish to express my sincerest appreciation to the members, board and executive of the F.U.A., F.W.U.A., Juniors and the office staff for their co-operation and help which I have received since I became interested in the Organization.

# Farmers' Union of Alberta

10128 - 98th Street

Edmonton, Alberta

## EXECUTIVE:

Vice-Pres. — Carl J. Stimpfle, Egremont.

A. B. Wood, Dewberry

Arthur R. Hadland, Baldonnel, B. C.

R. N. Russell, Athabasca.

F.W.U.A. President — Mrs. W. C Taylor,  
Wainwright.

## F.W.U.A. EXECUTIVE:

President — Mrs. W. C. Taylor, Wainwright.

1st Vice-Pres. — Mrs. C. T. Armstrong,  
2113 - 29 Ave., S. W., Calgary.2nd Vice-Pres. — Mrs. J. Harrold, Jr.,  
R. R. 8, Edmonton.

## JUNIOR EXECUTIVE:

President — Mable Rasmusson, Gwynne.

1st Vice-Pres. — Malcolm McMillan,  
Sub P.O. 23, Edmonton.

2nd Vice-Pres. — Ron Pollock, Hubalta.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

### District F. U. A.

1. Uri Powell, Sexsmith.
  2. R. H. Hawley, Nampa.
  3. Ken Monson, Linaria.
  4. Alfred Macyk, Sprucefield.
  5. Mark Saffin, Morinville.
  6. S. A. Sanford, Vegreville.
  7. Mrs. Mildred Redman, Hardisty.
  8. R. C. Reinhardt, Bawlf.
  9. Henry Lembicz, R. R. 2, Lacombe.
  10. Ray Bell, Carstairs.
  11. Jas. H. Cameron, Youngstown.
  12. Archie Hogg, High River.
  13. C. T. Armstrong, 2113 - 29 Ave. S.,  
Calgary.
  14. L. E. Pharis, Magrath.
- B. C. Block; G. W. Carlson, Dawson Creek.

### F. W. U. A.

- Mrs. G. P. Carroll, Beaverlodge.  
Mrs. Sam Simpson, Fairview.  
Mrs. R. N. Russell, Athabasca  
Mrs. R. Steinhauer, Brosseau.  
Mrs. C. D. Fuhr, Stony Plain.  
Mrs. T. H. Jackman, Bremner.  
Mrs. Donald Matheson, Dewberry.  
Mrs. Betty Galletly, RR 4, Sedgewick  
Mrs. C. E. Jones, R. R. 1, Millet.  
Mrs. C. R. Braithewaite, Red Deer.  
Mrs. Russell Johnston, Helmsdale.  
Mrs. Wm. Lawrence, 1, High River.  
Mrs. Sam Alberts, Brooks

Mrs. Mary B. Pharis Magrath.

### JUNIOR F. U. A.

- Miller Alstad, Wembley.  
Otto Roessler, Hines Creek.  
  
Mike Fedoretz, Smoky Lake, Alta.  
Mrs. S. Ostashek, Box 161, Andrew.  
Kenneth Greenway, Wainwright.  
Helen Smith, Bittern Lake.  
Ken Kasha, Box 214, Lacombe.  
Phyllisann Scott, RR4 Red Deer  
Paul Calon, Michichl.  
Norma Adam, Vulcan.

VETERANS' SECTION Chairman: V. C. Westersund, Blackie Secretary: Terence Oldford, Red Deer.

## EDITORIALS

### THE ROAD AHEAD

Another annual convention has come and gone. It was a good one, both in size and enthusiasm, but its value will be lost unless it is followed up. A gathering such as this where people of the same occupation come together from all over a vast area such as Alberta to discuss their common problems, is a great experience to most people. This is particularly true of those who go through it for the first time, and even to some who have seen many conventions it has never lost its thrill.

These conventions engender enthusiasm and the feeling of unity of purpose, which is essential to a people's movement. The convention should be followed up by activity in every farm district in Alberta.

First of all, Membership: This is the first essential. If we are to have a movement which will truly represent Alberta agriculture, the job should be tackled with renewed vigor. Before we can deal effectively with Governments, or anything else, we must have membership. There is

no time to lose; let's get it now!

Next, Action: Both Federally and Provincially, we should always be on the job. To get action on the things in our program, requires an active militant membership out in the country. Every local should contact their Provincial Member and make it clear to him that they are backing the F. U. A. program to the limit. Similar action should be taken in regard to Federal matters. This is the time that all Union Locals should be active and on the job. Our future is at stake.

As the old year goes out, the signs are plain for all to read. For more than a year now we have called attention to the coming agricultural crisis. Now it is almost here.

In 1930, the grain growers of the West were the first to feel the whirlwind of depression. This time the livestock industry is on the skids. Even grain raisers are caught between stationary prices for their products and ever-increasing costs of production. The latest freight rate boost will add to these costs.

Unless farm prices are boosted, or farm costs reduced, 1953 will see an agricultural depression in Canada on a scale not seen since the thirties. This will wipe out many of the values to which



# Announcement

For the convenience of our South Edmonton District customers we are opening

Another Branch of Our Hatchery at  
**10139-82 Avenue**

Special Invitation to All Customers.

**A full line of Chicks, Turkey Poults,  
Poultry Medicines & Poultry Feeds**

**CO-OP HATCHERIES**  
**Edmonton Alberta**

we are accustomed, and radically alter our way of life. If this occurs, many of those who have incurred heavy obligations, will be in a hopeless position. An agricultural depression could cost Western Canada billions of dollars. The best safeguard against it is an informed and organized rural people. A few dollars apiece and a few days' time spent in organization would be cheap insurance against such a disaster. Farmers should look to the future and remember that no one is going to save agriculture if they are not interested in their own economic salvation.

## POSSIBILITIES OF NATURAL GAS

Natural gas in Pincher Creek field, if used for generating electricity only, would supply power

for an aluminum plant of 50,000 tons per year capacity for 80 years. It would supply a city of 20,000 to 25,000 at Pincher Creek.

Already there is a plant idle in the State of Washington, due to lack of power. The aluminum plant at Kalispell, Montana, is designed for 58,000 tons yearly. What is physically possible at Kalispell, Montana, is also possible at Pincher Creek, Alberta.

If the Government allowed 2½% of their royalty to farmers owing surface rights, it would mean \$11,000 for each section for natural gas alone and possibly \$100,000 for by-products.

— J. W. Chapelle.

Two new F.W.U.A. Locals have been formed in District 11. One is at Big Stone and the other at Youngstown. Congratulations and keep up the good work.

# Annual Convention F. U. A., 1952

The fourth annual convention of the Farmers' Union of Alberta was held in Edmonton, at the Alberta College Auditorium, December 8 to 12, with 673 delegates and a large number of visitors in attendance. The total of 673 delegates included 566 delegates and officials from the F.U.A., 96 from the F. W. U. A. and 11 from the Junior F.U.A. It was estimated that approximately one-third of the delegates were attending their first annual convention, when the chairman asked for this indication.

The following officers were elected: F. U. A. President — Henry Young of Millet (re-elected); Vice-President — Carl J. Stimpfle of Egremont; Executive Members: A. B. Wood of Dewberry; A. R. Hadland of Baldonnel, B. C.; and R. N. Russell of Athabasca.

The F.W.U.A., meeting in separate session, elected a new Executive as follows: Mrs. W. C. Taylor, Wainwright — President; Mrs. C. T. Armstrong of Calgary, 1st Vice-President; and Mrs. Jack Harrold, Jr., R. R. 8, Edmonton — 2nd Vice-President. The Junior F. U. A. Executive is elected at their annual meeting during Farm Young People's Week, in June.

New Officers of the Veterans' Section of the F. U. A. for 1953, include R. E. G. Armstrong of Parkland as Chairman; J. L. McIntosh of Dimsdale, Vice-Chairman; B. C. Westersund, Blackie, Alternate Member; and Terence Oldford of Red Deer, Executive Secretary.

Some outstanding guest speakers attended the convention, one of whom was Mrs. Florence Reynolds of Washington, D. C., who is Information Officer in the Food and Agricultural Organization, a branch of the United Nations. Mrs. Reynolds outlined the work and the purpose of the F. A. O. in a most interesting manner. While in Edmonton, on invitation of the F. U. A., interviews were arranged for her also with Edmonton radio stations, and she was therefore heard on various programs.

Two visitors were present from the Montana Farmers' Union — Mrs. Mildred Stoltz, and Mr. Jasper DeDobbeleer. The latter was heard on Tuesday afternoon, and the former on Thursday evening.

Mr. Jake Schulz, President of the Manitoba Farmers' Union, attended as another guest speaker and addressed the delegates on Thursday evening. The same evening, Mr. Rod Tait of Lyalta, reported on the Banff Leadership Course which was attended by a group of young people last October.

Mr. Donald Cameron, Director of Extension in the University of Alberta, was another guest speaker, on Tuesday evening. Representatives

from the various Co-operatives attended as fraternal speakers.

The convention opened on Monday morning, December 8th, with Invocation by the Very Rev. J. Grant Sparling, D.C., followed by greetings from the Lieut-Governor J. J. Bowlen and address of welcome by Mayor Wm. Hawrelak of



**Carl Stimpfle of Egremont**

Mr. Stimpfle was elected Vice-President of the F. U. A. at the recent Annual Convention.

Edmonton. Convention chairmen were elected, including Messrs. Henry Young, Jas. Jackson and A. B. Wood, with powers to add. Following this, appointment of committees took place and then the annual addresses of the presidents of the three branches, F.U.A., Henry Young; F.W.U.A., Mrs. W. C. Taylor; and Junior F.U.A., Miss Mabel Rasmuson. The Board of Directors report was read by Mr. A. B. Wood. Monday afternoon the financial statement was presented by a member of the firm who audits the F. U. A. books, and questions were answered on the statement submitted. Extraordinary resolutions, dealing with Constitution amendments were then taken up, with the balance of the afternoon devoted to resolutions.

Tuesday morning, Hon. D. A. Ure, Provincial Minister of Agriculture, addressed the convention; also Mr. L. E. Pharis reported as a member of the Advisory Committee to the Agricultural Prices Support Board.

On Wednesday evening the annual convention dance was held with a social get-together



being held at the same time in the F.W.U.A. convention hall for those not wishing to dance. Lunch was served by the United Grain Growers. The orchestra included F. U. A. members from High River, with F. U. A. Director, Archie Hogg, as Master of Ceremonies.

Highlights of the program Thursday afternoon included an address by Geo. McIvor, chair-



**Rudolph Hennig of Fort Saskatchewan,**

who has a long record of service in farm organizations in Alberta. Mr. Hennig has been a member of the F. U. A. Executive since amalgamation and was Vice-President in 1949 and 1951. Much to the regret of his many friends, he declined to stand for re-election this year.

man of the Canadian Wheat Board, and addresses by Mabel Rasmuson, Junior President, and Bruce Ellis, winner of the Nuffield scholarship for 1952.

Among the resolutions passed at this annual convention were the following: One commending the Government of Canada for participating in the Economic Conference in London this month, and urging the Prime Minister and his colleagues to do everything possible to remove restrictions which hinder free movement of farm products, and also asking that every effort be made to bring about unrestricted convertibility of currency within the Commonwealth; another authorized the F. U. A. Board to negotiate with the A. F. A. on the question of a possible merger of the two organizations, and if agreed on a plan, to submit it to the F. U. A. Locals well in advance of the 1953 convention.

Another asked that we reiterate our request that the Provincial Government enact workable legislation for setting up Producer Controlled Marketing Boards for various types of farm pro-

duce, while another Provincial Government resolution asks that a fund be set up that will assist young men in the purchase of land and equipment, such assistance to be repaid on a long term basis. Taxation of Seismograph Companies was asked in another.

That P.F.A.A. be expanded into a more complete system of crop insurance, with certain recommended changes was asked for in a Federal Government resolution. A domestic price for wheat of \$2.25 was asked for, and the price schedule asked for in the International Wheat Agreement provided for \$2.35 ceiling and \$1.85 floor price with provision for an annual price review. A protest against any change in the Crow's Nest Pass Agreement was covered in another resolution.

Compensation to the farmer for loss of crops by wild game was asked for, in the form of lump grants from the Federal Government, and by the setting aside by the Provincial Government of part of a necessary hunting license cost, by contributions from Sportsmen's Clubs and by the individual farmer who wishes to protect his crops. Farm storage was also asked for, to be the regular storage paid to the elevators, and increasing the amount each month unless that grain be required by the Wheat Board.

A resolution asking that the F. U. A. endorse and work at all times with the Interprovincial Farmers' Union Council, was also passed.

Adequate compensation of at least \$1,500.00 per well site, with a yearly rental of not less than \$500.00, or an alternative policy of 1% gross royalty after the first year, was asked for. Community Property Laws resolution providing that wives and husbands have an equal share in all properties after marriage, was also passed.

Considerable discussion centred on the F.U.A. membership fees (to take effect Nov. 1st, 1953) and the following was agreed to:

Family Membership Fee — \$6.00 per year including children 14 to 21 years with subscription to the Organized Farmer also included.

Individual Membership (adult) — \$4.00. (Individual women may come in for \$3.00). Subscription to the Organized Farmer also included.

Junior Membership — (Individual) 14 to 21 years — \$1.00.

Associate Membership to F.W.U.A. (not eligible to vote or be a candidate for election) — \$1.00.

20% of membership fees, except Junior Memberships and Associate Memberships and Organized Farmer subscriptions, to be returned to the Districts.

The convention reaffirmed its policy that party politics should be kept out of the Union.

A substantially larger share of the cost of education, (at least 50%) to be borne by the Provincial Government, was asked for in a resolution which was carried. The convention also



avored having requisition cards for Municipal collection of dues, signed by members. The policy with regard to automobile insurance and rural electrification was reaffirmed by resolutions which also carried. The delegates favored an increase in the floor price of hogs, so the Alberta producer would receive 28c, also a more uniform system be used with regard to grading and prices for cattle.

With regard to Income Tax, a yearly final accounting is being asked for, with all hospital and medical expenses deductible from the income of the taxpayer. The convention also asked that the Central F. U. A. Office set up a system of legal and Income Tax advice free to all members of the F. U. A. The Federal Government is being asked to make expenses of clearing and breaking exempt from tax.

Resolutions not dealt with at the convention were delegated to the Board for attention. It is expected the Board will meet the week of January 12th.

With regard to the Building Fund, delegates were asked by vote of the convention to have their Locals sponsor dances or special functions, the proceeds of which should be sent to Central Office as a contribution to this fund.

A climax to Thursday's programme was the

auction sale of the F.W.U.A. handicraft articles donated by members of F.W.U.A. Locals. Also a hand-painted cushion top, donated by Mrs. R. N. Russell of Athabasca, was raffled, bringing \$35.00 to the fund. This cushion top was won by Miss Molly Coupland of Lethbridge.

A vote of thanks was extended by delegates of this convention to the following: Press and radio, guest speakers, committees and individuals, Dr. Villett and the management of Alberta College for their excellent facilities, civic authorities for their kind and courteous treatment, to the office staff Central Office, to the U. G. G. for the lunch, to C.J.C.A. for the special recording of some of our convention proceedings as well as other broadcasts relative to the convention, to the people in the City of Edmonton who opened their homes to the delegates and to all who contributed to the success of the convention.

— G. W.

## JUNIOR F. U. A. NEWS

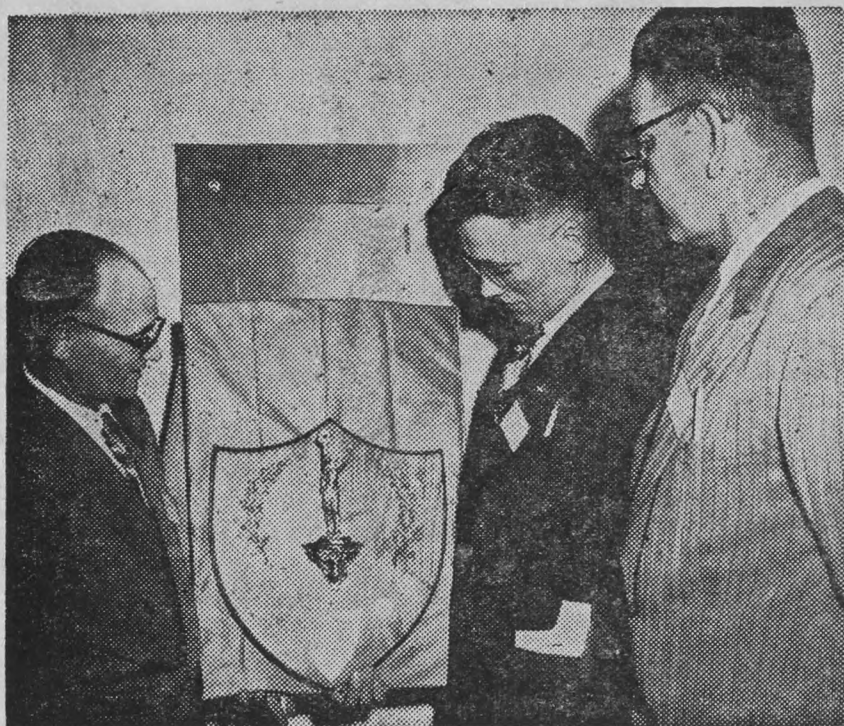
A new Junior Local has been formed at Carstairs. Miss Phyllisann Scott, Junior Director in District 10, and Mr. R. C. Bell, F. U. A. Director, were at the organization meeting and both addressed the group. Secretary elected was Bruce Ing, and president, Harold V. Schielke. Congratulations and best of luck in all your Local activities.

\* \* \*

Mrs. Pat Carrell, F.W.U.A. Director for District 1, organized a Junior Local at Beaverlodge. Mrs. G. Carty addressed the first meeting. Ken L. Lock was elected secretary, and Mr. Trevor Harris, president. Arrangements were completed to have a suprise bingo and hayride at the home of Mrs. Brown to raise funds for sending a visitor from the new local to the Convention. Congratulations, and keep up the good work.

\* \* \*

The Central Community Juniors held their November meeting on the 25th at the home of the Turnquist sisters. Plans were made for the annual convention and Christmas party to be held at the home of Wallace Maygard. It was decided to enter the Action Contest. Florence Rasmuson and Joyce Turnquist were nominated as reporters and will begin their duties in December. A skating party was to be held November 30th. Jim Peters was nominated to attend the Annual Convention.



The "George Roth Trophy" being presented, during the F. U. A. Annual Convention, to members of the winning "Pine Hill Local," Kris Johnson, President, and Nick Eliuk, Secretary, of Red Deer.



## F. W. U. A. HIGHLIGHTS

Report of District 14 Convention, was given at the November meeting of the Warner F.W.U.A. Local, held at the home of Mrs. Vera Lien. Gifts are to be bought for the Kulhn baby and Mrs. Doris Murray, who has been ill.

\* \* \*

Clearwater F.W.U.A. met in November at the home of Mrs. Vera Schmidt. It was moved to present Mrs. Vera Schmidt with a gift of \$15.00 for kindly donating her home for all their meetings and for knitting a Northland sweater for their raffle. A successful dance and raffle was held on November 28th, netting \$74.44. Mrs. Alberts, F.W.U.A. Director for District 13, gave a very interesting address, stressing the necessity of sending delegates to conventions.

\* \* \*

Lower Beaverlodge F.W.U.A. met November 28th at the home of Mrs. A. Nordstrom. They discussed sending a delegate to the Convention. They plan to have a demonstration on clothing and good grooming.

\* \* \*

The annual meeting of the Fairview F.W.U.A. Local No. 201, was held in November at the home of Mrs. J. Wilson. Officers elected were: President — Mrs. W. Eaglesham; Vice-president — Mrs. S. Smith; Secretary — Mrs. C. Proctor; Treasurer — Mrs. A. Campbell. \$10.00 was donated to the building fund. Members will sell tickets on a doll that they are raffling. A delegate will be sent to the Annual Convention.

\* \* \*

The members of the Griffin Creek Local are holding a series of card parties during the winter months and two \$5.00 prizes will be given; one for lady's high score and one for the man's. They held a sale of aprons and home cooking on December 6th.

\* \* \*

The annual meeting of the Poplar Ridge F.W.U.A. was held at the home of Mrs. B. Ninkovich. The officers for the past year were returned for another term. Five dollars was donated to British and Foreign Bible Society and \$10.00 to the Blind Institute. An interesting account was given of a wood sawing bee held at the farm of Thomas Percival. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. J. B. Moore.

\* \* \*

Stepledene F.W.U.A. Local met in November at the home of Mrs. Ann Popowich. The selling of Christmas cards to members was very successful. Resolutions were read and discussed. A delegate will be sent to the Annual Convention.

\* \* \*

Thirteen members attended the November meeting of the Hazel Bluff F.W.U.A. Local held at the home of Mrs. Ernest Stanton. The dist-

riect Home Economist will be showing the group how to make copperwork pictures, novelty lamps and to paint fabric during the coming months. Resolutions were read and discussed.

\* \* \*

Swalwell F.W.U.A. Local met Nov. 21st at the home of Mrs. Fred Empey. They held a card party on Nov. 26th. A lengthy discussion took place in regards to the making of their quilt. It was moved that they buy 2½ yards of sheeting. Miss Shatz will speak at the January meeting on "This Business of Bazaars."

\* \* \*

Ten members and four visitors attended the November meeting of the Veteran F.W.U.A. Local, held at the home of Mrs. Adams. The meeting opened with an executive letter which proved very interesting. The roll call was answered by "An unusual hobby." Plans were made for a Christmas gift exchange.

\* \* \*

The ladies of the Streamstown Community Club were guests at the November meeting of the Durness F.W.U.A. Local, held at the home of Mrs. D. Robertson. A pair of blankets were raffled and brought \$26.40. The resolutions were discussed.

\* \* \*

A CARE parcel was sent to England and quilts will be made for Korea by the Fairdonian Valley F.W.U.A. Local. They met Nov. 19th at the home of Mrs. D. Galletly. Mrs. Stuart Galletly reported on the board meeting at Daysland. Articles will be sent to the Handicraft Display.

\* \* \*

Park Grove F.W.U.A. Local held their November meeting at the home of Mrs. A. Ziegler. \$104.91 was made at their harvest supper. This will be used to send a delegate to the Convention and \$25.00 was donated to the Blind Institute. Everyone was very enthusiastic about the Action Contest.

\* \* \*

Westlock F.W.U.A. Local met Nov. 11th at the home of Mrs. Bella Lyons. Members voted to hold card parties after Christmas. Members volunteered to serve lunch at the annual meeting of the Westlock Community Library. Mrs. Beach is to be their delegate to the Convention. The December meeting will be in the form of a Christmas party.

\* \* \*

The November meeting of the Hope Valley F.W.U.A. Local was held at the home of Mrs. E. P. Taylor with nine member and one visitor present. A vote of thanks was given all non-members who assisted with the fowl supper and contributed to its success. Committees were appointed to canvass for new members.

\* \* \*

Clover Bar F.W.U.A. Local met Nov. 7th at



the home of Mrs. C. Wilkinson. One of the main projects they are undertaking is planning a Community Centre as a memorial to the Pioneers of the district. Four articles were entered in the Handicraft Exhibit. A contribution was made to the Canadian Institute for the Blind.

\* \* \*

Election of officers took place at the November meeting of the Jenny Lind F.W.U.A. Local, held at the home of Lucy Clarke. Those elected were: Mrs. Ruby McLachlan, President; Mrs. LaRoyce Swanson, Vice-president, and Mrs. Ella Drake, Secretary. Their annual banquet was held on December 6th and a cake sale on November 18th.

\* \* \*

A delegate was chosen for the Annual Convention at the November meeting of the Sydenham F.W.U.A. Local, held at the home of Mrs.

Ackroyd. Plans were made to enter the Action Contest. Funds are being raised for the Leadership Course.

\* \* \*

Hairy Hill F.W.U.A. Local met in November at the Hairy Hill School with ten members in attendance. They donated \$25.00 to the Building Fund. The news flashes were found very interesting. They intend to enter the Action Contest.

\* \* \*

The annual Bazaar of the Craigmyle F.W.U.A. was held on Nov. 29th, at the Innes Hall. At a regular meeting, members volunteered to pay 50c each for redecorating the F.W.U.A. Hall.

\* \* \*

On Nov. 26th Willow Springs F.W.U.A. Local held a banquet to celebrate their Local's twenty-first anniversary. All present members and their husbands, as well as past members, were invited to attend. This was enjoyed by all.

\* \* \*

St. Albert F.W.U.A. Local held their annual meeting on Nov. 13th in the Community Hall. Officers elected were: Mrs. L. Powell, President; Mrs. J. R. Atkinson, Secretary; Mrs. M. Osodchuk, Vice-President. Mrs. J. Fuhr was elected delegate to the Annual Convention. Net proceeds of the raffle were \$18.00. Donations of \$25.00 each were made to the Building Fund and the Leadership Course.

\* \* \*

Nine members and two visitors attended the November meeting of the Ranfurly F.W.U.A. Local, held at the home of Mrs. R. Bown. A \$25 scholarship was presented to Arnold Matvie. A letter will be sent to the Medical Health Officer at Vermilion, requesting that a "Well-baby Clinic" be held in Ranfurly once a month. Christmas parcels will be sent to two Ranfurly boys serving in France.

\* \* \*

The bazaar that Royce F.W.U.A. Local held was reported very successful. They plan to sponsor some entertainment soon, the proceeds to go to the Hines Creek Nurses' Home. They met in November at the home of Mrs. Herb Furstenwerth.

\* \* \*

Members of the One Tree F.W.U.A. Local met in November at the home of Mrs. W. Kobol. A F.U.A. and F.W.U.A. supper was held at One Tree School to raise funds. The Local is sponsoring an adult square dancing club and also a center for children, including tap dancing and square dancing.

\* \* \*

Election of officers took place at the November meeting of the Ardrossan F.W.U.A. Local, held at the home of Mrs. G. Ottewell. Those elected were: Mrs. Norman Matheson, President;



Mrs. Wm. Matheson, Secretary; Mrs. C. Sanford, Vice-President. The ladies were in favor of serving lunch at the farm Auction Sale of Mr. C. M. Fulton.

\* \* \*

The Rosyth F.W.U.A. held a most successful tea, bazaar and sale of home cooking in the basement of the United Church in Hardisty on Saturday afternoon, November 22nd, and cleared about \$122.00. At their last meeting Mrs. Harriet Flaade and Mrs. Anna Kobitzsch were elected delegates to the Provincial Convention.

## F. U. A. NEWS

One Tree F. U. A. Local No. 1324 met in November with ten members present. Election of a new executive took place. Those elected were: Minor Murray — President; Jim Alberts — Vice-President; Don Berg — Secretary. A delegate was chosen for the Annual Convention. A whist drive and supper will be held to raise money.

\* \* \*

The annual meeting of the Deep Creek F.U.A. Local was held at the Whitby School. It was sparsely attended as so many members are out working, all of them being hailed out this year. We hope you have better luck next year. Mrs. E. Davidson is the secretary.

\* \* \*

A new Local was formed in District 9 at Benalto. Mr. Henry Lembiez, District 9 Director, and John Kangas, sub-director, both spoke at the meeting. Officers elected were: Ted Heikkinen, President; Jack Ropsfelt, Vice-President, and Geo. Smith, Secretary. They signed up 30 members at their first meeting. Congratulations and keep up the good work.

## MERGER OF F. U. A. AND A. F. A.

WHEREAS a committee of the F. U. A. and A. F. A. has suggested a merger of the two organizations and has indicated the lines along which in their opinion such a merger could take place and

WHEREAS such a step requires the fullest and most careful consideration before any binding action is taken;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Convention authorize the F. U. A. Board to continue negotiations with the A. F. A. on the question of a possible merger of our two organizations and if a plan is mutually agreed upon it be submitted to the locals well in advance of the 1953 Annual Convention. Provided always that in any such plan direct membership control through locals and the Annual Convention be fully maintained.

Carried F. U. A. Convention  
December 9, 1952.

## SIX MONTHS IN BRITAIN

By Bruce Ellis

"The experience of a life time" is the best way to describe my six months' stay in Britain. I learned a good deal of the British farming methods and the way of life of the people, and will long have pleasant memories of my travels and the fine people I met there.

Lord Nuffield is a very wealthy English car manufacturer, who several years ago, set aside a vast amount of money in trust. Nuffield Foundation was organized to distribute this money in the form of scholarships throughout the British Empire. It is available in the various fields of learning — science, medicine, etc. It has only recently been made available to agriculture. English farmers are sponsored abroad and farmers from the various Commonwealths are sponsored for six months in Britain. This year, there were two from New Zealand, one from Australia, one from Tasmania, two from Southern Rhodesia, with Donald Small and myself from Canada.

This is the second year that two Canadians have had the opportunity of studying farming methods in Britain. The purpose of the scholarship is to create a better understanding between farmers of Canada and the United Kingdom, also to exchange ideas, pick up a few new ones and possibly leave some behind. Any Canadian farmer, 25 years or over, may apply for the scholarships through the Provincial Federation of Agriculture. The Provincial Federation make their selection which is forwarded to Ottawa where a final selection committee decide who the two people will be, one from the East and one from the West.

I would like to express my appreciation to Alberta Federation of Agriculture for having been chosen from this Province and the final selection committee for subsequently having been chosen to represent Western Canada.

I left Calgary last March 20th, arriving in England April 4th. This enabled me to follow through farming operations from spring to the conclusion of harvest. Travelling by auto with Donald Small, I visited many parts of England, Scotland and Wales plus several days in Ireland, stopping over at 58 farms in a total travelling distance of 8,000 miles.

It was a very good year in England for farmers. The weather being dryer and warmer than usual, crop yields were good to excellent, with succeeding fine weather for the harvest, a factor which is not always so. It resulted in one of the easiest harvests on record.

Britain is the most highly mechanized country per acre in the world, also the highest producing country per acre in the world — two rather enviable records. Good management, abundant moisture and ideal ripening weather are

# Seed Treatments

We are now booking orders for C. I. L. (Canadian Industries Limited)

## Seed Treatment Products

Most farmers like to have their stock on hand early. We can supply the full C. I. L. line as follows:

**DUAL PURPOSE BENESAN** — A new product — providing combination wireworm and disease control, including smut.

**BENESAN** — Wireworm control only.

**BUNT CURE** — To control stinking smut of wheat.

**CERESAN M** — Effectively controls most smuts in all types of grain. Improves germination. Controls root-rot.

For further details write to:

**U. F. A. Co-op Farm Supply Dept.**

**125 - 11th Ave. East, Calgary**

the main factors I would attribute to such high yields. Malting barley at 80 bushels to the acre and oats yielding 135 bushels to the acre were some of the crops I observed. In Norfolk county a record yield was made this year with Hybrid variety of wheat yielding 135 bushels an acre on eight acres. The farming business in Britain, I found to be in a good position. Britain is traditionally an Industrial Nation with agriculture representing only 5% of the total. Farmers have a ready market for everything they can produce. During the recent war, the Government realized the importance of home grown food. They have encouraged increased production by means of subsidies. Prices for all farm products are set by the Government for a year in advance, after due consideration to the cost of production. The Farmers' Union in making recommendations to the Government, also keep a close watch on costs of production.

What impressed me most in the country, was not the farms or their methods, but the people themselves. I found them to be quite unpretentious. Everyone takes a good deal of pride in their job whatever it may be and they all accept life from day to day. Above all, everyone treats his fellow man with a degree of respect that

makes for a refreshing atmosphere. I found my time spent in England to be profitable and enjoyable. For anyone contemplating an extended holiday, I would certainly recommend the British Isles; with the present rate of exchange in our favor our dollars go much further than in Canada, a factor we can all appreciate.

### AMISK-HUGHENDEN F. U. A. LOCAL HELD LIVELY MEETING RECENTLY

A good live meeting of Amisk - Hughenden Local was held in the Legion Hut at Hughenden on Thursday evening, Nov. 20th.

Mr. Erol Manning gave a report on the U.G.G. Convention which he had recently attended.

Mrs. Redman, the new District 7 Director, gave a report of the Inter-Provincial Conference held in Saskatoon; the work that had been carried out in the Provincial organization, and also what had been done in District 7.

Mr. Drever, the new Sub-district Director, spoke on the canvass for membership.

Delegates elected to the Provincial Convention were Oliver Peddicord and Donald Manning with Milton Shawley and A. Holte as alternates.



## Farmer-Owned Co-operative in Strong Position as U. G. G. Completes Successful Year

With a record grain handling, operations for the past year provide the following distribution to U.G.G. shareholders and customers:

Appropriation for payment of patronage dividends on 1951-52 crop.....	\$950,000
Appropriation for payment of dividends on share capital.....	239,000
	<u>\$1,189,000</u>

U.G.G. shareholders have invested in  
their Company .....\$4,781,000

### BUT

Their equity in the Company is now over \$8,584,000

TOTAL payments made to shareholders  
and customers since the Company's  
formation now amount to over.....\$12,350,000

Capital Assets of the Company stand at \$19,099,597.00,  
while working capital at July 31st, 1952, amounted to  
\$6,462,067.00.

These figures tell but part of what U.G.G. members  
have achieved for themselves through their own or-  
ganization.

**ADD YOUR STRENGTH  
TO THIS FARMER-OWNED COMPANY  
Deliver Your Grain To**

# UNITED GRAIN CROWERS LTD.

"Canada's Original Farmer Owned Co-operative"

# Christmas Message

FROM THE

# Alberta Wheat Pool

The Christian world commemorates Christmas in honor of the birth of Christ. His teachings form the foundation of a relationship between human beings which, if lived up to, would bring heaven to earth.

The spirit of unselfishness is abroad at Christmastime. While the family is the centre of Christmas festivities, hospitality and friendly feelings spread far beyond the intimate circle. Goodwill radiates through the whole community.

It is a wonderful experience for humanity, that the cares and worries and resentments of everyday life can, for a little space in the year, be forgotten and friendliness and sympathy prevail.

So, in the face of the trouble and fear of war which depresses the world, the 1952 Christmastide is looked forward to with cheerfulness.

“As long as there are homes where fires burn  
And there is bread,  
As long as there are homes where lamps are lit  
And prayers are said,  
Although a people falter through the dark,  
And nations grope,  
With God, Himself, back of these homes,  
We still have hope.”